

List of other Ornithological Publications received.

- HAVILAND, MAUD D., and PITT, FRANCES. The Selection of *Helix nemoralis* by the Song-Thrush (*Turdus musicus*). (Ann. Mag. N. II. (9) iii. 1919, p. 525.)
- RILEY, J. H. Six new birds from Celebes and Java. (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, vol. 32, 1919, p. 93.)
- STONE, W. Birds of the Panama Canal Zone, with special reference to a collection made by Mr. Lindsey L. Jewel. (Proc. Acad. Philad. 1918, p. 239.)
- WARREN, E. R. Bird notes of a stormy May in Colorado Springs. (Condor, xxi. 1919, p. 62.)
- WITHERBY, H. F. (edited by). A practical Handbook of British Birds. Pts. 2 and 3.
- Archivum Melitense. (Vol. iii. no. 7, 1918.)
- Auk. (Vol. xxxv. no. 2, 1919.)
- Avicultural Magazine. (Third Series, Vol. x. nos. 6-8, 1919.)
- Bird-Lore. (Vol. xxi. no. 2, 1919.)
- Bird Notes. (Third Series, Vol. ii. nos. 3-4, 1919.)
- British Birds. (Vol. xii. nos. 11-12; vol. xiii. no. 1, 1919.)
- Condor. (Vol. xxi. no. 2, 1919.)
- Emu. (Vol. xviii. nos. 3-4, 1919.)
- Fauna och Flora. (Vol. xiv. nos. 1-3, 1919.)
- Le Gerfaut. (1919, fasc. 1.)
- El Hornero. (Vol. i. no. 3, 1918.)
- Irish Naturalist. (Vol. xxviii. nos. 3-6, 1919.)
- Journal Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. (Vol. xxvi. no. 1, 1918.)
- Journ. Nat. Hist. Soc. Siam. (Vol. iii. no. 2, 1919.)
- Rev. Française d'Ornithologie. (Nos. 119-120, 1919.)
- Scottish Naturalist. (Nos. 87-90, 1919.)
- South Australian Ornithologist. (Vol. iv. no. 1.)
- Der Waldrapp. (Vol. i. no. 1, 1919.)

XXVIII.—*Letters, Extracts, and Notes.*

South African Hawks.

SIR,—In an article I have recently sent you for publication on the South African Accipitres I have questioned whether the European Peregrine could be included in the South African Avifauna; but I at the same time drew attention to the fact that the late Mr. J. H. Gurney had recorded this species, from time to time, from South Africa.

With a view to finding out whether any of these specimens were really *F. peregrinus*, I wrote to Mr. J. H. Gurney (jun.) asking him to kindly examine the series in the Norwich Museum and let me know the result. This he has very kindly done, and I quote the following from a letter from him which I have just received:—"The Norwich Museum contains two Peregrine Falcons from South Africa. No. 1, marked 'Cap de Bonne Esperance,' is certainly a true Peregrine, an *old* skin from Jules Verreaux, but Verreaux's localities are not to be relied on. The other (No. 13), a fine adult female, marked 'Natal, W. Gueinzus'—bought at a sale at Stevens's—is also a Peregrine, I feel sure. It is altogether too big for *Falco minor*, the wing from carpal joint being 14 inches and the tarsus 1.9. It is a heavily spotted bird, the upper chest (which is usually white in British specimens) being also marked with dark pear-shaped spots . . . almost up to the chin." It is no doubt the specimen mentioned on p. 56 of Layard and Sharpe's 'Birds of South Africa,' see also p. 800.

Now if the two above-mentioned specimens are really South African killed, it will be necessary to include this species in the South African list after all, although I still have doubts as to whether the Peregrine really does occur.

In connection with my recently published paper on *Hieraaëtus ayresi* (Ibis, April 1919), I have just received a letter from Mr. W. L. Slater which contains the following interesting remarks on the subject:—"I have just been looking through our specimens in the Museum, and I quite agree with your views on the matter. I am going to Norwich next month and shall have a careful look at the type (of *Spizaëtus ayresi*) there, and perhaps, if I think necessary, get it to London for comparison.

"We have in the British Museum only one adult *H. ayresi* (from Belgian Congo), but several juv. of the specimens noticed at p. 176 of your paper.

"Sowerby's *Aquila wahlbergi* is not *Hieraaëtus spilogaster* or *H. ayresi*. So far as I can see it is rightly identified.

“The Cameroon specimen (Sharpe, Ibis, 1904, p. 102) is a *Spizaetus*, and I believe now it is nothing to do with *H. spilogaster* or *H. ayresi*” *.

With reference to the above-mentioned specimen collected by Sowerby and described by Sharpe (Ibis, 1898), I can only repeat what I have already said on the subject of *Aquila wahlbergi*, that this species, normally, either in adult or juvenile plumage, never has any white in its plumage, and I have examined a number in all stages and have seen an equal number of living birds, both in captivity and free. Therefore I contend that this specimen, if rightly referred to *A. wahlbergi*, must be an abnormal and probably albinistic specimen.

I am, Sir,

Yours truly,

Roberts Heights,
Pretoria.
6 May, 1919.

C. G. FINCH-DAVIES, Lt.
(1st S.A.M.R.).

The Godman-Salvin Memorials.

In accordance with the resolution, proposed by Mr. Stuart Baker and unanimously agreed to at the Annual General Meeting of the Union held in March last, that a Medal should be founded to be given from time to time for distinguished work in Ornithology in memory of Messrs. Godman and Salvin, a circular has been sent round to all members of the Union asking for subscriptions to carry out this matter.

Up to the 16th of June answers have been received from 86 members of the Union, and the total subscriptions promised or received amount to £131 16s. 3d. The Secretary of the Union, Mr. E. C. Stuart Baker (Chief Police Office, West India Docks, London, E. 14), will be glad to receive any further amounts from members.

* It is referable to *Spizaetus africanus* (Cassin), see Bull. B. O. C. xxxix. 1919, pp. 87 and 93. [Ed.]

The Committee appointed to arrange for the designing and cutting of the Medal will shortly meet and settle this question, and will issue a report which will be published in the next number of 'The Ibis,' with a complete list of the subscribers.

With regard to the proposed memorial in the Natural History Museum with which, it may be recalled, it was the unanimous wish of the Members that the Union should be associated, a Committee has been formed with representatives of the Zoological, Linnean, Royal Geographical, British Ornithologists' Union, and other Societies, and including many old friends and admirers of Mr. Godman.

It has been settled that the memorial shall take, primarily, the form of a bronze tablet, with medallion-portraits of Messrs. Godman and Salvin, and a suitable inscription, to be offered to the Trustees of the British Museum to be placed in the Natural History Museum.

Should there be, as the Committee hope, a generous response to the appeal which they are making, it is proposed to devote any additional sum realized, after defraying the cost of the bronze tablet, to a sum which Dame Alice Godman and her daughters are offering to the Trustees of the Museum in order to found a "Godman Memorial Exploration Fund," the proceeds of which are to be used in making scientific collections for the benefit of the Museum.

Subscriptions to this Memorial should be addressed to the Hon. Treasurer of the Committee, Mr. C. E. Fagan, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London. S.W. 7.

Protection for Canadian Bird-Sanctuaries.

Mr. J. H. Gurney writes as follows :—“It is very satisfactory to learn from Mr. P. A. Taverner that by Act of the Quebec Parliament the celebrated Bird-rocks—an ancient stronghold of the Solan Goose—have now been placed under reservation as a bird-sanctuary; also Percé

Rock, and the bird cliffs of Bonaventura, where six or seven thousand Solaus still breed. All these Canadian sanctuaries are in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and no doubt they stood in much need of legal protection."

Oological Dinner.

The fifth annual Oological dinner will be held on Wednesday, 10 September, 1919. The principal feature of the exhibit in connection with this dinner will be the eggs of the Warblers.

Gentlemen wishing to attend are invited to send their names to the Hon. Sec., Clifford Borrer, 1 Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4.

The Selous Collections.

From 'Nature' we learn that Mrs. Selous has presented to the Natural History Museum Captain F. C. Selous's collection of big game trophies as well as the collection of European birds' eggs. This last is most valuable, as every clutch was taken by Captain Selous himself and is labelled most carefully with exact date and locality. The collection will in due course be removed from Worplesdon to South Kensington.

Ornithologists Abroad.

We hear that Captain Hubert Lynes is on the slopes of the Atlas in Morocco and has made some interesting ornithological discoveries. Mr. Witherby is shortly leaving for the Balearic Islands, and Dr. Hartert is collecting in Spain.

From the 'Times' we learn that Captain Court-Treatt, of the Bird-room of the Natural History Museum, is the leader of the party of airmen engaged in laying out a flying route between Bulawayo and Cape Town; while Mr. Guy Shortridge, the well-known collector, who has also been

serving in the R.A.F., has charge of the portion of the Cape to Cairo route between Abercorn at the south end of Lake Tanganyika and Bulawayo.

From the last number of the 'Auk' we learn that American collectors and observers are also returning to the field. Mr. Roy C. Andrews of the American Museum has gone back to China to continue his work there, and Mr. Klages, a well-known bird-collector, is making a trip through French Guiana to the Amazon. In February last Captain William Beebe left New York with a party which will establish themselves in the Tropical Research Station of the New York Zoölogical Society in British Guiana, where work of much importance will be carried on.

Mr. Fleming's Museum.

One of the largest private collections of birds in North America is that of Mr. J. H. Fleming, M.B.O.U. He has recently completed a census and has communicated the figures to the 'Auk.' The collection is not confined to North American species, but covers the birds of the world. We learn that it comprises about 25,000 specimens, representing 5377 species and 1925 genera as recognized in Sharpe's Hand-list. When we note that there are, according to this authority, some 17,000 species of birds and 2647 genera, we realize that Mr. Fleming has about one-third of the known species and three-fourths of the genera represented, the latter being evidence of the painstaking care that he has exercised in bringing together this notable series of specimens.